

Amendments to the claims (this listing replaces all prior versions):

1-31. (canceled).

32. (currently amended) An audio system for an automobile having a passenger compartment having two seats, said audio system comprising:

an audio signal source having a plurality of output channels including a surround output channel; and

a first plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers for radiating sound waves corresponding to said surround channel;

wherein the two seats are positioned side by side, and said electroacoustical transducers are positioned in said passenger compartment with an axis of each transducer oriented generally parallel to an axis of rotation of an occupant's head, such that ~~an~~ when the occupant is in any of the two of the seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said electroacoustical transducers.

33. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 32, wherein said plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.

34. (currently amended) An audio system in accordance with claim 33, further comprising a second plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers,

said audio signal source comprising a left surround output channel and a right surround output channel,

wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said left surround output channel, ~~and wherein~~

said second plurality of transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said right surround output channel, and wherein

an axis of each transducer of the second plurality is oriented generally parallel to an axis of rotation of an occupant's head, such that when the an occupant is in any of the two seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers.

35. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 34, wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers is coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer and wherein said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.
36. (currently amended) An audio system for an automobile having a passenger compartment having seats, each seat having a seat back, said audio system comprising:

an audio signal source having a plurality of output channels including a surround output channel; and

a first plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers for radiating sound waves corresponding to said surround channel;

wherein each of the electroacoustical transducers are positioned in a corresponding seat-back with an axis of each transducer oriented generally parallel to an axis of rotation of an occupant's head, such that an when the occupant is in any of at least two of the seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said electroacoustical transducers.
37. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 36, wherein said plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.
38. (currently amended) An audio system in accordance with claim 37, further comprising a second plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers,

said audio signal source comprising a left surround output channel and a right surround output channel,

wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said left surround output channel, ~~and wherein~~

said second plurality of transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said right surround output channel, and wherein

an axis of each transducer of the second plurality is oriented generally parallel to an axis of rotation of an occupant's head, such that when the an occupant is in any of the two seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers.

39. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 38, wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers is coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer and wherein said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.

40. (currently amended) An audio system for an automobile having a passenger compartment having seats, each seat for accommodating a single occupant, said audio system comprising:

an audio signal source having a plurality of output channels including a surround output channel; and

a first plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers for radiating sound waves corresponding to said surround channel;

wherein a number of transducers in the first plurality is equal to or greater than a number of said seats in the passenger compartment, and

said electroacoustical transducers are positioned in said passenger compartment with an axis of each transducer oriented generally parallel to an axis of rotation of an occupant's head, such that ~~an~~ when the occupant is in any of at least two of the

seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said electroacoustical transducers.

41. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 40, wherein said plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.
42. (currently amended) An audio system in accordance with claim 41, further comprising a second plurality of substantially identical electroacoustical transducers, said audio signal source comprising a left surround output channel and a right surround output channel, wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said left surround output channel, ~~and wherein~~ said second plurality of transducers are for radiating signals corresponding to said right surround output channel, ~~and wherein~~ an axis of each transducer is oriented generally parallel to an axis of an occupant's head, such that when the an occupant is in any of the two seats, the occupant's head is forward of, in a direct field of, and positioned substantially identically relative to a corresponding one of said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers.
43. (previously presented) An audio system in accordance with claim 42, wherein said first plurality of electroacoustical transducers is coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer and wherein said second plurality of electroacoustical transducers are coupled to said audio signal source by a single equalizer.
44. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 32, also comprising:
a signal processor coupled to said surround output channel and having an input to receive a signal from an auxiliary source,

the signal processor being configured to transmit the signal from the auxiliary source to said transducers in place of a surround input signal when said auxiliary source signal is received on said input of said signal processor.

45. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 36, also comprising a signal processor coupled to said surround output channel and having an input to receive a signal from an auxiliary source,

the signal processor being configured to transmit the signal from the auxiliary source to said transducers in place of a surround input signal when said auxiliary source signal is received on said input of said signal processor.

46. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 40, also comprising a signal processor coupled to said surround output channel and having an input to receive a signal from an auxiliary source,

the signal processor being configured to transmit the signal from the auxiliary source to said transducers in place of a surround input signal when said auxiliary source signal is received on said input of said signal processor.47. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 32, wherein the axis of each transducer is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.

48. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 34, wherein the axis of each transducer of the second plurality is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.

49. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 36, wherein the axis of each transducer is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.

50. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 38, wherein the axis of each transducer of the second plurality is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.

51. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 40, wherein the axis of each transducer is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.

52. (new) An audio system in accordance with claim 42, wherein the axis of each transducer of the second plurality is oriented within ± 20 degrees of the axis of rotation of the occupant's head.